EVIL ONE...

...BE-GONE!

CHAPTER 24: THE 12 LABORS

CHOK

SWIF

KS

HNG

FW

P

KA

CHAK

FZZ

UMM...

WHRRR

AN UM-
BRELLA
?!

UP

WHRRR

BAM

HSSS

!

I GUESS YOU'RE MORE THAN A MERE COWARD.

SO, YOU WERE ABLE TO DEFLECT THAT.

FWUP

GOOD SIR...

SWP

25

I AM ONLY JUST...

...GETTING STARTED!

NICE ONE, JACK!

WAAAAA

WAY TO GO, MUR-DERER!

...AL-CIDES!

C'MON...

YAAAAAA

YEAH... BUT IF WE DON'T BELIEVE IN HERACLES...

I FEEL A BIT GUILTY ROOTING FOR A GOD.

TO BE HONEST...

HE'S *OUR* HERO.

AFTER ALL...

...WHO WILL?

CASTOR
CITIZEN OF THEBES

...MR. HONOR-ABLE HERO?

REMIND ME. WHAT DID YOU SAY YOU WOULD DO TO EVILDOERS...

TOK TOK

ONE SHOULD ALWAYS CARRY AN UMBRELLA.

THAT WAS CLOSE!

WHEW...

SKF SKF

WHAT WILL I DO?

...AND MOW YOU DOWN!

I'LL SIMPLY PLOW INTO YOU...

THAT'S SUCH A MEATHEAD THING TO DO.

WHAT? HE'S STILL PLANNING TO OVER-POWER HIM?

THERE IS NOT A SHRED OF DUPLICITY IN HERACLES!

MUSH MUSH

HE'S NOT LIKE YOU!

...HE'LL ATTACK HIM HEAD-ON?

OR IS HE BLUFFING WHEN HE SAYS...

YOU REALLY HAVE THE UTMOST FAITH IN HIM, DON'T YOU?

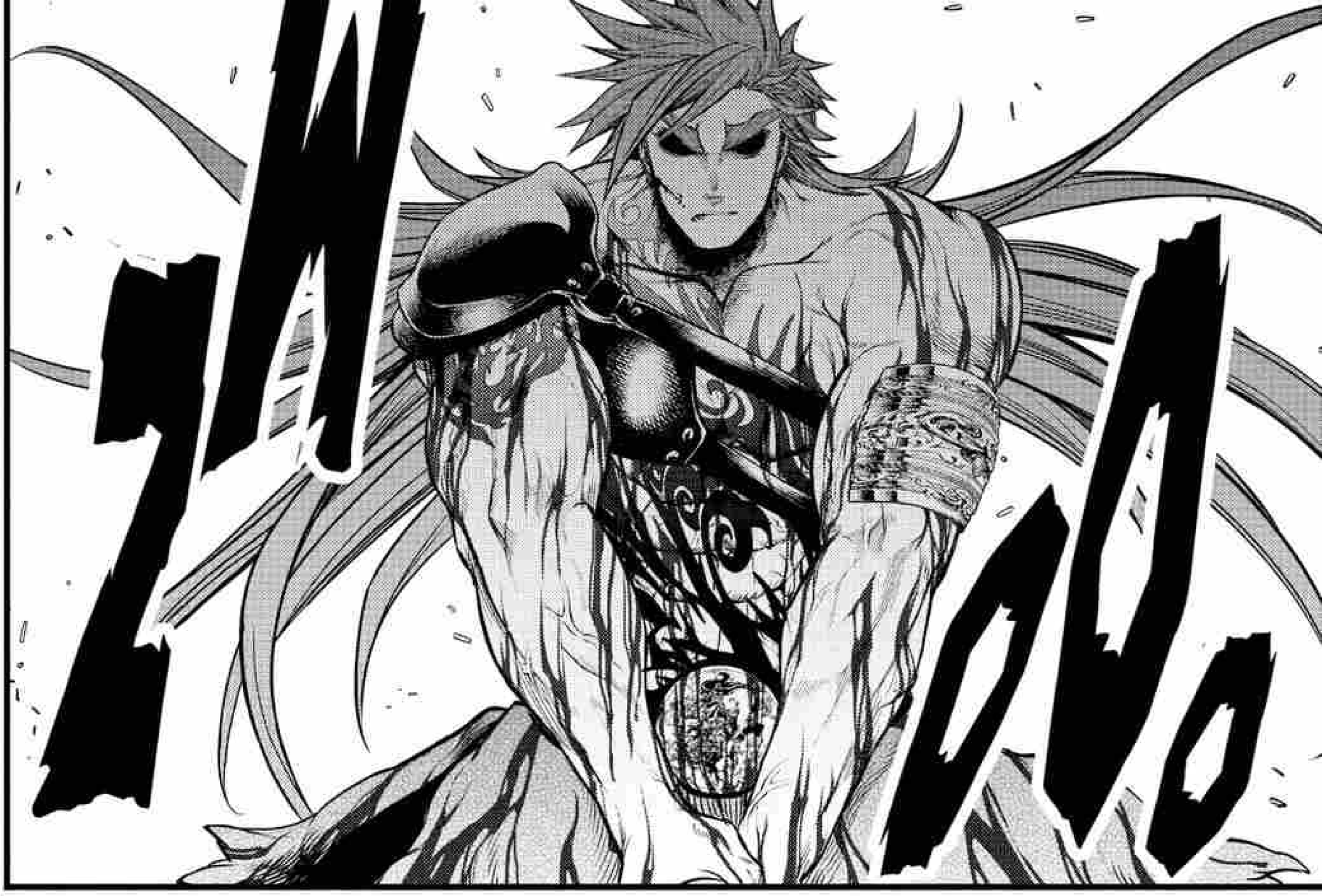
AW... THAT'S SO SWEET.

HE'S A MAN OF HIS WORD.

THAT'S WHO HERACLES IS!

BA

M


HA
HA

!!
WHP

ARE YOU THINKING OF—?!
HERA-CLES!

LNK
LNK
LNK
LNK

FWOO

?!

ZSH ZSH ZSH

ZSH

...DEVOUR ME!

LION OF NEMEA...

ZSH ZSH

ZSH

SZZ SZZ SZZ SZZ

ZIK GROOO GRRAA

ZIK

GRRR

H-HIS TATTOO! IT'S SPREADING DOWN HIS ARM!

AND WHAT'S THAT GROWL WE'RE HEARING?!

HERACLEAN EXODUS: THE 12 LABORS

THE FIRST LABOR

THE NEMEAN LION: HEAVEN-DEVOURING ROAR

GO

TMP

WAP

HHP

KR

AKKA

KRAK

FZZZ

ZH

CH

BA

KOOM

GAKK

KRAK

!!

BRMM

WHMP

ZSH

H-
HERACLES'S
SPECIAL
TECHNIQUE
...

...HAS
BLOWN
JACK
AWAY!

A SINGLE DIRECT STRIKE!

ONE BLOW!

AWE-SOME!

HERA-CLES!

HE GOT HIM!

YEAH!

NICE ONE, ALCIDES!

YES!

WHAT'S WRONG, ARES?

...

NOT BAD FOR A FORMER HUMAN.

WOW.

HSS HH

!!

HM...?

LOOK AT THAT!

H-HEY...!

H-
HERA-
CLES'S
TATTOO
HAS...

...GROWN
EVEN
BIGGER!

THAT'S THE PRICE HE MUST PAY.

WHAT?

...WHICH GAVE HIM A DOZEN DIVINE TECH-NIQUES.

RIGHT BEFORE HERACLES WAS ANOINTED AS A GOD, HE PERFORMED 12 LABORS...

HOWEVER, DUE TO THEIR TREMENDOUS POWERS...

...THEY COME WITH A PRICE.

EVERY TIME HE PERFORMS ONE OF THOSE TECHNIQUES, THE TATTOO SPREADS FARTHER ACROSS HIS BODY.

...WRACKS HIS BODY WITH PAIN SO EXCRUTIATING, IT WOULD KNOCK A TYPICAL GOD OFF THEIR FEET.

EVERY MILLIMETER IT SPREADS...

SHZZZZZ

WHAT HAPPENS ONCE THE TATTOO COVERS HIS ENTIRE BODY?

SO...

GODLY POWERS THAT CAUSE HIM PAIN... THAT IS *SO* HERACLES.

HMM... BUT HE DOESN'T LET IT SHOW.

HE DIES.

NIFLHEL. COMPLETE ANNIHILATION.

REALLY?

THAT'S THE ESSENCE OF THE 12 LABORS, THE HERACLEAN EXODUS.

EXCHANGING HIS OWN LIFE FOR DIVINE POWER...

DON'T SQUANDER YOUR LIFE AGAINST SCUM LIKE HIM!

HERA-CLES...

YES. BUT, GEIR...

HERA-CLES! HE'S SO STRONG.

...EVEN *MORE* INTEREST-ING!

PINCH

THIS IS GOING TO GET...

...

SHWP

AMAZING!

DANGLE

WOBBLE

HMM?

DROOP

WHAP

FWIP

FWIP

HMM...

TWIST

KAPOK

SHUDDER

THAT HAD TO HURT!

WHAT WAS THAT? DID HE JUST SNAP HIS SHOULDER BACK IN?!

"THE LABOR WE DELIGHT IN..."

"...PHYSICS PAIN."

OH...?

ARE YOU NOT FAMILIAR WITH THAT LINE?

HUH...?

...?

TAP TAP

THAT'S FROM...

ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

WOOT!

I WROTE THAT!

IT'S FROM MACBETH!

HEY!

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
PLAYWRIGHT

IS HE A FAN OF MINE?

SHAKE-SPEARE ...!

IT MEANS MY WORK COULD NOT DISSUADE A SERIAL KILLER.

IF SO, I HAVE FAILED!

...QUITE SUCCESS-FUL.

ACT ONE HAS BEEN...

CHK

KLIK

SNIK

KLIK

KLAK

NOW...

...SHALL WE?

LET'S MOVE ON TO ACT TWO...

CHOK

FIGHT

IS HE CHAL-LENGING HERACLES TO HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT ?!

J-JACK THE RIPPER IS CHARGING IN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THIS MATCH!

AH

OK

WH

AM

GRR

SHING

FWIP

GLEAM

!

J-JACK'S BUTTERFLY KNIFE IS NOW A PROJECTILE WEAPON!

KACHING

FW AP

SH

TK

TK

TK TK TK

ZWNNN

TK TK

TK

TK

ドシャ

ハ
ハ

WMP

ハ
ハ

BOOM

WOOO

VRVR

...HIS RAIN OF BLADES!

JACK JUST WILL NOT STOP...

ALL WHILE CONTINUING TO HURL HIS BLADES!

RATHER THAN FIGHTING IN CLOSE, JACK IS KEEPING HIS DISTANCE AND CIRCLING AROUND HERACLES!

ALL THE OLYMPIAN CAN DO IS DEFEND!

TK TK TK TK TK

JACK IS TOYING WITH HIM!

HH RR R

WH AM

KRA KK

ZWSH

HH

!

ZOOM

THUK

WAIT ...

PERHAPS NOT!

TMP

HERACLES CLOSES IN ON JACK LIKE HE WAS JUST WAITING FOR AN OPENING!

WHP

BUT JACK NARROWLY ESCAPES!

TATATMP

TP

AM I SEEING THIS RIGHT?

WHAT ?!

TP TP TP TP

?!

J-JACK THE RIPPER IS...

H-HOW CAN THIS BE...?

...FLOAT-ING IN MIDAIR!

TOO SOON!

HOLD ON...?
UPON CLOSER INSPEC-TION...
SHNG
... STRETCHED ALL ACROSS THE STAGE!
THERE ARE PIANO WIRES...
IT'S PIANO WIRE!
BNG
BNG
BA DUM

YOU STILL INSIST ON PLAYING YOUR LITTLE TRICKS?

...

...

FWP

...?

TNG

SIR, ARE YOU CARRYING AN UMBRELLA?

LOO

HERE IN LONDON, IT RAINS A GREAT DEAL...

...SO DO TAKE CARE.

OM

PN

NG

PNG

PNG

KRK

OH DEAR...

PWOP

...THAT UMBRELLA YOU BROKE EARLIER.

IF ONLY I COULD LOAN YOU...

RRRR

THUD

OW

SHF

I'LL JUST SWAT THEM ALL AWAY!

PNG

PNG

PNG

SKCH

THUK

UNCTION

ING

...THE KNIVES ARE BOUNCING RANDOMLY OFF *OTHER* WIRES!

A-AFTER BEING LAUNCHED BY THE WIRES...

IT'S A GREAT DELUGE OF BLADES!

CHOK TNK TOK TOK TOK TOK TNK TNK TNK

THEY'RE COMING AT HERACLES FROM ALL DIRECTIONS!

IF HE KEEPS TAKING THIS KIND OF PUNISH-MENT...

...IT COULD BE FATAL...

CHK CHK CHK CHK

...!

THERE IS NO DEFENDING AGAINST THIS!

TK TK

...

TK TK

...EVEN FOR HERA-CLES!

ALCIDES!

OH...!

I CAN'T WATCH ANY MORE OF THIS!

NO!

GRNGH

HERACLEAN EXODUS: THE 12 LABORS

KRK
KZK
ZOW
ZRM
KZK
KZK

THE SIXTH LABOR

FU
KYA
APO
A
A
ZMM

STYMPHALIAN WHIRLWIND CALLING BIRD

!!

FOOM

PNG

PNG

PNG

FWIP

TOK TOK TOK TOK

SKCH

CHNK

NRS GOD

TH

MP

TNk

TNk

TNk

ZIN'S

...WITH SUCH TRICKERY!

YOU CANNOT DEFEAT ME...

NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, YOU'RE DOOMED.

OUT

HEH...

HEH...

HEH...

HEH...

?

HEH...

HEH...

EXCELLENT!

MORE...! GET YOURSELF EVEN *MORE* WORKED UP.

RRM

RRM

THAT'S THE SPIRIT!

RRM

RRM

WHAT...?

RRM

RRM

JUST AS I THOUGHT!

RRM

YES...!

NO

YOU'RE GLOWING WITH THE STRENGTH ...

...OF YOUR INDOM-ITABLE WILL.

OH!

...

GRIN

THIS IS GOING TO BE SO MUCH FUN!

...

ZCHUAK

THAT WAS RUDE OF ME. I APOLO-GIZE.

SHF

BUT IT'S JUST...

PLIP

BLUST

...WITH A GOD.

THIS IS MY FIRST TIME...

CHAPTER 24 - END